GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2138
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2017
Harassment of Soldiers
Shanavas Shri M. I.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of reports relating to soldiers being subjected to harassment and menial jobs by senior officers;

(b) if so, the report of the deaths of such soldiers of the Indian Army been brought to the prominent notice of the Government;

(c) whether the Government has conducted an inquiry into the matters alleged by the relatives of the victims concerning harassment by superior officers as the principal cause of their suicide;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government proposes to consider granting compassionate employment to the spouse or next of kin or merit and if so the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
????? ????? ?????? (??. ????? ?????)
(a) to (d): Complaints by serving soldiers on the issues raised by them are dealt with by the concerned authority in the organization as per the existing rules/policies.
One case of a soldier taking the extreme step of taking his own life has been reported. An internal inquiry to ascertain the circumstances has been conducted. The matter is subjudice and police investigation is in progress.
As per the study conducted by Defence Institute of Psychological Research (DIPR), the major causes of suicides in the Army are domestic problems, marital discord, stress and financial problems. In order to reduce such cases, appropriate measures have been taken by the Government.

(e) The families / next of kins of the deceased soldiers receive financial assistance by way of Family Pension, Death-cum-Retirement Gratuity etc. as per extant rules. They may also avail the benefits of the various schemes provided through the Directorate General Resettlement / Kendriya Sainik Board.
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